

OFFENSE

MALCOM FLOYD

POSITION

Wide Receiver

YEARS PLAYED

2004-Present

TEAMS

San Diego Chargers

ORIGIN

Samoa

COLLEGE

Wyoming

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

10th all-time in Chargers receiving yards

NOTES

Despite being an undrafted free agent, Floyd went on to a very productive career in the NFL as one of QB Philip Rivers' favorite WRs. He retired after 2015 season.

Trivia: Malcom was named after older brother Malcolm; their father removed the second "l."

MARK TUINEI

POSITION

Left Tackle

YEARS PLAYED

1983-1997

TEAMS

Dallas Cowboys

ORIGIN

Hawaii

COLLEGE

Hawaii

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

3x SB champion; 2x Pro Bowl

NOTES

The star offensive lineman was also an all-star basketball player in high school, while playing on the same team with Barack Obama. He was a key part of the Cowboys' 1992, 1993, and 1995 Super Bowl titles. Sadly, he died of a drug overdose in 1999, apparently his only experience trying heroin.

JESSE SAPOLU

POSITION

Left Guard

YEARS PLAYED

1983-1997

TEAMS

San Francisco 49ers

ORIGIN

Hawaii

COLLEGE

Hawaii

NOTES

An inductee into the Polynesian Football Hall of Fame, Sapolu was an offensive line mainstay for the 49ers with whom he won 4 Super Bowl rings.

OLIN KREUTZ

POSITION

Center

YEARS PLAYED

1998-2011

TEAMS

Chicago Bears; New Orleans Saints

ORIGIN

Hawaii

COLLEGE

U of Washington

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

6x Pro Bowl; Polynesian Football Hall of Fame

NOTES

Kreutz started 182 regular-season games for the Bears, second only to Walter Payton. He played only briefly with Saints before quitting because he'd "lost passion for the game."

KEVIN MAWAE

POSITION

Right Guard

YEARS PLAYED

1994-2009

TEAMS

Seattle Seahawks; New York Jets; Tennessee Titans

ORIGIN

Hawaii

COLLEGE

LSU

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

8x Pro Bowl; 2000s NFL All-Decade Team; Polynesian Football HOF

NOTES

He served two terms as NFLPA president, which coincided with 2011 NFL lockout, and has done extensive children's charity work in Africa and the US.

RAY SCHOENKE

POSITION

Right Tackle

YEARS PLAYED

1963-1975

TEAMS

Washington Redskins; Cleveland Browns; Green Bay Packers; Dallas Cowboys

ORIGIN

Hawaii

COLLEGE

SMU

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

On "50 Greatest Redskins" players list

NOTES

A member of Polynesian Football Hall of Fame, Schoenke was also voted to the "50 Greatest Redskins" players list. He was a key player on their 1972 Super Bowl squad.

MICHAEL HOOMANAWANUI

POSITION

Tight End

YEARS PLAYED

Current

TEAMS

St. Louis Rams; New England Patriots; New Orleans Saints

ORIGIN

Hawaii

COLLEGE

Illinois

NOTES

A Super Bowl champion with the Patriots, Hoomanawanui was an All-State high school football player in Illinois and Honorable Mention All-Big Ten in college.

MARCUS MARIOTA

POSITION

Quarterback

YEARS PLAYED

2015-Present

TEAMS

Tennessee Titans

ORIGIN

Samoa

COLLEGE

Oregon

NOTES

When a junior in 2014, Mariota became the first Oregon player and Hawaii-born athlete to ever win the Heisman Trophy. He was the 2nd overall pick in the 2015 draft.

VAI SIKAHEMA

POSITION

Running Back, Kick Returner

YEARS PLAYED

1986-93

TEAMS

St. Louis/Arizona Cardinals; Green Bay Packers; Philadelphia Eagles

ORIGIN

Tonga

COLLEGE

BYU

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2x Pro Bowler

NOTES

After retiring he became the Sports Director for WCAU-TV in Philadelphia. A great kick returner, Sihakema came up with a famous "goalpost punching" celebration after scoring a TD. He also became an amateur boxer who famously fought baseball star Jose Canseco in the ring.

CHRIS FUAMATU-MA'AFALA

POSITION

Running Back

YEARS PLAYED

1998-2004

TEAMS

Pittsburgh Steelers; Jacksonville Jaguars

ORIGIN

Samoa

COLLEGE

Utah

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Scored TD in 2002 playoffs

NOTES

The one-time Western Athletic Conference star in college was raised in Oahu's most notorious, dangerous housing project, Mayor Wright Housing, but stayed out of trouble by focusing on football. He scored a TD for the Steelers in the 2002 playoffs.

MOSI TATUPU

POSITION

Running Back

YEARS PLAYED

1978-91

TEAMS

New England Patriots; St. Louis Rams

ORIGIN

Samoa

COLLEGE

USC

NOTES

A special teams ace who made the Pro Bowl, Tatupu inspired the Mosi Tatupu Award, given annually to the College Football Special Teams Player of the Year by the Maui Quarterback Club and the Hula Bowl. Tatupu's later years were full of demons, mostly caused by suffering from CTE (football-related brain trauma).

DEFENSE

MAA TANUVASA

POSITION

Defensive End

YEARS PLAYED

1993-2002

TEAMS

Denver Broncos; San Diego Chargers; Atlanta Falcons

ORIGIN

Samoa

COLLEGE

Hawaii

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2x Super Bowl winner

NOTES

A member of the Hawai'i Sports Hall of Fame, Tanuvasa was a key member of the defense for the Broncos' back-to-back SB champions in the late '90s. He was also a track star in high school.

STAR LOTULELEI

POSITION

Defensive Tackle

YEARS PLAYED

2013-Present

TEAMS

Carolina Panthers

ORIGIN

Tongan

COLLEGE

Utah

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

First round pick and All-Rookie team

NOTES

Lotulelei won the Morris Trophy for the best lineman in the Pac-12 Conference, and then was drafted in the first round in NFL draft. His father is a Mormon seminary teacher and his brother John plays in the NFL as well.

DANNY SHELTON

POSITION

Nose Tackle

YEARS PLAYED

2015-Present

TEAMS

Cleveland Browns

ORIGIN

Samoa

COLLEGE

U of Washington

NOTES

Called by NFL.com a "defensive terror in the making," Shelton is surprisingly fast for a 340 lb. lineman. He speaks with pride about his Samoan heritage and often wears a lava-lava (Polynesian skirt).

HALOTI NGATA

POSITION

Defensive Tackle

YEARS PLAYED

2006-Present

TEAMS

Detroit Lions; Baltimore Ravens

ORIGIN

Tonga

COLLEGE

Oregon

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

5x Pro Bowl; 1x Super Bowl champ

NOTES

The 12th pick in the 2006 draft, Ngata went on to become one of the most ferocious defensive players in the NFL and won a Super Bowl with the Ravens. Ngata lost both his parents within a 4 year period.

LUTHER ELLISS

POSITION

Defensive Lineman

YEARS PLAYED

1995-2004

TEAMS

Detroit Lions; Denver Broncos

ORIGIN

Samoa

COLLEGE

Utah

NOTES

An All-American in college, Elliss also played basketball in high school, and for a year at Utah, before focusing on football full-time. He earned his nickname "Pass Rushing Luther" when in Detroit.

RIKI ELLISON

POSITION

Linebacker

YEARS PLAYED

1983-92

TEAMS

San Francisco 49ers; Oakland Raiders

ORIGIN

Maori

COLLEGE

USC

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

3x Super Bowl Champion

NOTES

The extremely rare player from New Zealand, Ellison is of Maori descent, and after a successful college career at USC, went on to win 3 Super Bowl rings with the 49ers.

JUNIOR SEAU

POSITION

Linebacker

YEARS PLAYED

1990-2009

TEAMS

San Diego Chargers; Miami Dolphins; New England Patriots

ORIGIN

Samoa

COLLEGE

USC

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

12x Pro Bowl; AFC Player of Year

NOTES

Though sadly now also remembered from his tragic suicide that has been linked to post-concussion brain trauma, Seau's amazing career, which saw him make the Pro Bowl 12 times and win AFC Player of the Year once, should be saluted.

REY MAUALUGA

POSITION

Linebacker

YEARS PLAYED

2009-Present

TEAMS

Cincinnati Bengals

ORIGIN

Samoa

COLLEGE

USC

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Pac-10 Defensive Player of the Year (2008); unanimous All-American (2008)

NOTES

Both a high school and college All-American, Maualuga is mindful of his Samoan heritage, displaying many bold, warrior-like Polynesian tattoos on his arms and legs. He played NFL player Popo Vanauta in the 2014 baseball film Million Dollar Arm.

LOFA TATUPU

POSITION

Linebacker

YEARS PLAYED

2005-2010

TEAMS

Seattle Seahawks

ORIGIN

Samoa

COLLEGE

USC

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

3x Pro Bowl

NOTES

The son of NFL-er Mosi, Lofa became an assistant coach with his former team, the Seahawks, after hanging up the spikes. He made the Pro Bowl his first 3 seasons and was voted onto the Seahawks 35th Anniversary Team.

TODD LYGHT

POSITION

Cornerback

YEARS PLAYED

1991-2002

TEAMS

St. Louis Rams; Detroit Lions

ORIGIN

Marshall Islands

COLLEGE

Notre Dame

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Pro Bowl; SB Champ

NOTES

The only NFL player hailing from the Marshall Islands, in '99 season's playoffs Lyght recorded 22 tackles, an interception and deflected 5 passes as the Rams went on to

win Super Bowl XXXIV. He also blocked a field goal attempt in that game. In 2015, Lyght was hired as defensive backs coach for his alma mater Notre Dame.

TROY POLAMALU

POSITION

Safety

YEARS PLAYED

2003-2014

TEAMS

Pittsburgh Steelers

ORIGIN

Samoa

COLLEGE

USC

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2x Super Bowl Champion (XL, XLIII); 8x Pro Bowl

NOTES

Considered one of the all-time great safeties, Polamalu is a two-time Super Bowl champion (XL, XLII) and was voted into the Pro Bowl eight times.